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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/552,022	10/03/2005	Bruno Coissac		6886
7590	12/15/2006		EXAMINER	
Coissac, Bruno 258 Avenue D'Argenteuil Asnieres Sur Seine, 92600 FRANCE			MILLIKIN, ANDREW R	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2892	

DATE MAILED: 12/15/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/552,022	COISSAC, BRUNO	
	Examiner Andrew Millikin	Art Unit 2892	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 October 2005.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: there is a brief description of drawings on page 10 of the specification, but there are no drawings present in the file. Drawings are requested; each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

1. Claims 4-5 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being in improper form because a multiple dependent claim cannot depend from any other multiple dependent claim. See MPEP § 608.01(n). Accordingly, the claims have not been further treated on the merits.

2. Claim 2 is objected to because of the following informalities: the meaning of the term "slaved" is unclear. Appropriate correction is required. For the purposes of examination, "slaved" is interpreted as meaning "coupled."

3. Claim 3 is objected to because of the following informalities: claims are single sentences. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1-3 & 6 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Adams et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,005,181, hereafter '181).

Claim 1: '181 teaches a device (Fig. 2) which can be carried during use, acting as an interface between the user and a system or systems for generation, management, transmission, and reception of electronic and computerized signals (column 2, lines 27-31) which enable the triggering, control, and stopping (column 2, lines 40-51; column 4, lines 62-67 & column 5, lines 1-8) of electronic, electrical, audible, visual, and mechanical events (column 2, lines 40-51; the device receives user input, converts it to an electrical signal, and transmits it to a processor which controls an acoustic output at (441), which is necessarily both mechanical and visual, as speakers have to vibrate to make sound), a device characterized by the fact that it comprises a handling bar (118) on which juxtaposed finger controls (120-1; column 4, lines 30-32) form a surface which extends from one edge to the other of the width of the said handling bar (column 2, lines 20-31; column 3, lines 56-67; column 4, lines 1-16).

Claim 2: '181 teaches a device acting as an interface between the user and a system or systems for generation, management, transmission, and reception of electronic and computerized signals which enable the triggering, control, and stopping

Art Unit: 2892

of electronic, electrical, audible, visual, and mechanical events, a device characterized by the fact that it comprises a flexible handling bar (118) on which finger controls (120-1) are juxtaposed and by the fact that it comprises a sensor slaved to the bending of the said handling bar (column 6, lines 65-67).

Claim 3: '181 teaches the device according to one of claims 1-2 characterized by the fact that it comprises an additional finger control (120-2), the operation of which by the user replaces the triggering of the finger controls (120-1) juxtaposed on the length of the handling bar (118). These finger controls (120-2) are then used to designate the events to be triggered (column 4, lines 36-61).

Claim 6: '181 teaches the device according to claim 2 characterized by the fact that the flexible handling bar (118) comprises a spring which enables the flexible handling bar (118) to return to its initial position or shape when a bending or twisting stress ceases to be applied. Since the bar (118) is made of wood, metals, or metal alloys (column 3, lines 60-62), all of which have some amount of springiness, the bar itself functions as a spring.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andrew Millikin whose telephone number is 571-270-1265. The examiner can normally be reached on M-R 6:30-4 and 6:30-3 Alternating Fridays (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Cleveland can be reached on 571-272-1418. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

ARM


MICHAEL B. CLEVELAND
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER